Marion County

Knowledge for Life

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Marion County Master Gardener Volunteers

We would like to welcome and congratulate Charlotte, Pat, and Phyllis on completing the KSRE Master Gardener Volunteer Program!

Congratulations!
We would like to congratulate our Office Professional, Jana, and her family on their Baby Boy!

Welcome to the world Rande Joseph Miller!
After a long and heated debate, the 2018 Farm Bill is law. While the 2014 Farm Bill had new farm programs and major changes, the 2018 Farm Bill is largely status quo with some improvements to Title I programs that should benefit farmers during these tough times in agriculture.

Effective reference prices (ERP) now include a formula and could go up as much as 15% if commodity prices improve.

Statutory reference prices remain the same, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Statute reference</th>
<th>Maximum Effective reference (115%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CORN</td>
<td>$3.70</td>
<td>$4.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOYBEANS</td>
<td>$8.40</td>
<td>$9.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHEAT</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
<td>$6.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAIN SORGHUM</td>
<td>$3.95</td>
<td>$4.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some provisions that have changed specific to ARC-County:

- A separate irrigated and dryland ARC-County guarantee and payment will be calculated in EVERY county. For those counties in which there are limited data for a practice, other sources of yield information such as representative farms in adjacent counties or the crop reporting district will be used to determine a county yield that is representative of the applicable practice.
- The Effective Reference Price (as defined earlier) will be used to substitute low prices in the 5-year history of MYA prices. The ARC-CO program will then use an Olympic average of the last 5 years of MYA prices after these substitutions are made to set the price side of the ARC-County guarantee.

The Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL) and Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) payments are no longer counted towards the $125,000 payment limit for ARC and PLC programs. Loan rates have increased to the following:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CORN</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOYBEANS</td>
<td>$6.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHEAT</td>
<td>$3.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAIN SORGHUM</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018 Farm Bill Continued...

The new law provides the authority for RMA to consider expanding availability of limited irrigation crop insurance but doesn’t require it. This likely means RMA will continue expanding, but only after they are satisfied the limited irrigated data is scientifically sound.

The new law moves up the reporting date for farmers to report their yields to update their APH for crop insurance. This was done to provide the county yields earlier so farmers and lenders can estimate the FSA ARC payments earlier. The earlier county yield calculation will also allow for earlier RMA Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) payments.

The Managers note the continued growth of Whole Farm Revenue Policies (WFRP) that is based on tax returns and they believe WFRP has the potential to provide vital risk management to producers who are underserved by crop insurance and enhance options for existing policy holders. The Law gives RMA a lot of “wiggle” room on how or if the Managers’ changes are implemented. The Managers would like for RMA to provide the follow changes to WFRP:

a) Minimize paperwork for producers and agents for the purchases of WFRP.

b) Implement a WFRP option for producers with less than $1,000,000 in gross revenue that requires significantly less paperwork and recordkeeping.

c) Managers urge RMA to expedite the analysis of removing the cap on livestock and nursery revenue.

d) Managers believe RMA should target WFRP coverage to non-traditional agricultural commodities (e.g. aquaculture) or production and marketing systems (e.g. urban, local food, or greenhouses, or other commodities) that are not served well by traditional crop insurance.

e) WFRP has a major limitation for farmers who hedge their crops using futures. Futures market gains are counted in the revenue, but futures losses are not counted in the farm’s expenses.

The Credit Title of the farm bill did change rather significantly with an increase in the direct loan limit (loans directly from FSA) and an increase in the guaranteed loan limit (from another bank, but guaranteed by FSA). For direct farm ownership loans, the increase was from $300,000 to $600,000 while guaranteed ownership loan amounts increased from $700,000 to $1,750,000. For operating notes, the direct loan limit increased from $300,000 to $400,000 and the guaranteed operating loan limit increased from $700,000 to $1,750,000. All these increases run from 2019 to 2023.

Also of interest to Kansas producers is the establishment of a federal vaccination bank with priority to Foot and Mouth disease, and the legalization of industrial hemp with a crop insurance program.

Podcast of the Month:

Agriculture Today with Eric Atkinson
Interested in K-State?
Are you or someone you know interested in attending Kansas State University?
Contact our local K-State Admissions Representative to help answer any questions you may have, or plan a visit to Campus!

Kaylee Sundeen
kstate5@k-state.edu

Walk Kansas 2019
March 17th-May 11th
Are you ready for Walk KS 2019?! Be on the lookout for more information on registration and events!

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy
Ready to tackle your New Year’s Fitness Goal?
Join Agent, Tristen Cope at the Peabody Senior Center every Monday and Thursday from March 4th through April 25th 10:00-11:00 AM for Stay Strong, Stay Healthy!
SSSH is an evidence based eight-week program for older adults that meets the recommendation for healthy muscle strength. Visit our website for more information!

Cost: $10.00/Person
Register by February 19th:
Phone: 620-382-2325
Email: tcope@ksu.edu

Garden Helpers
The Marion Community Garden is looking for volunteers for the 2019 gardening year!
Contact the Office for more information.

EZ Does It Video Recipe of the Month: White Chicken Chili
https://vimeo.com/album/4192370/video/250121718
**Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month**

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. About 1 in 10 teens who have been on a date have also been physically abused by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the last year.

One of the most important things you can do is keep the lines of communication open with your kids by the following:

- Be a role model and treat your kids and others with respect.
- Start talking to your kids about healthy relationships early; before they start dating.
- Get involved with efforts to prevent dating violence at your teen’s school.

*If you are worried about your teen, call the National Dating Abuse Helpline at 1-866-331-9474 or text “loveis” to 22522.*

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### Which Should I Use?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Soap and Water</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hand Sanitizer</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Before and after preparing/eating food</td>
<td>• Before and after visiting a friend or loved one in a hospital or nursing home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Before and after caring for someone who is sick</td>
<td>• If soap and water are not available; use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, and wash with soap and water as soon as you can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Before and after treating a cut or wound</td>
<td>• Note: Alcohol-based hand sanitizers may not kill ALL types of germs such as Norovirus or Clostridium Difficile-aka stomach bugs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After using the bathroom or changing a diaper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After touching an animal or animal waste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After touching the garbage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If your hands are visibly dirty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Information Derived From: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*
Congratulations!!

We would like to congratulate Cassie, Landon, and Charlie on advancing to the State Level with their KAP Books!

Way to go!

4-H Council Meeting
Monday, March 11th
at 7:00 PM
Hillsboro United Methodist Church

High School Scholarship Watch
Marion County 4-H Development Fund
Konley Harding Scholarship
2019 State 4-H Scholarship
Vanier Family Scholarship
Visit our website for more information:
http://www.marion.k-state.edu/4-h/forms/index.html

Kansas Jr. Swine Producer Day
Saturday, March 9th
Manhattan, KS

Kansas Jr. Meat Goat Producer
Saturday, March 30th
Manhattan, KS
Visit our website for more information:
http://www.marion.k-state.edu/4-h/4HUpdate.html

4-H Fair Assistant
The Extension Office is currently seeking applicants to assist with the Marion County 4-H portion of the Fair. The 4-H Assistant would help the Office with tasks such as: Check-In Procedures, Assistance with Shows, Entering Results, Food Stand Assistance, and more.
If you are interested, please contact the Extension Office!
CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION

WHAT: Participants will get an up-close look at the legislative process, including a tour of the Capitol building, tips on how to meet and talk with their legislators, and a discussion on how youth can have a greater impact in their communities. Youth are also encouraged to schedule individual meetings with their local legislators.

WHEN: Feb. 17-18. It is open to youth who will be 13-18 years old prior to Jan. 1, 2019.

WHERE: Kansas Capitol building in Topeka

Registration and scholarship information available online at www.Kansas4-H.org.

Registration deadline is Feb. 1st.

Check out our website for more information!

http://www.marion.k-state.edu/4-h/4HUpdate.html
Upcoming Events

February 17-18th—4-H Citizenship in Action

February 18th—Office Closed, Presidents Day

March 4th--Stay Strong, Stay Healthy Program Begins (M&Th)